

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 SCEM-02 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00 /205 W

----- 069320

R 081622Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5119

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USINT BAGHDAD

S E C R E T BEIRUT 12918

DEPT ALSO PASS CAIRO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MX

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ARAB SUMMIT

REF: ALGIERS 2325

1. ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR YAZID TOLD EMBOFF NOV 7 THAT
PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE HAD SUCCEEDED IN PERSUADING ARAB
chiefs of state to participate in ARAB SUMMIT TO BE
HELD IN ALGIERS BEFORE NOV 15 (PROBABLY NOV 11 OR 12).

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YAZID ALLEGED THAT EGYPTIANS AND SYRIANS HAD FIRST

SUGGESTED IDEA OF SUMMIT AND BOTH THESE GOVTS AND THAT OF SAUDI ARABIA AGREED PARTICIPATE. LIBYA ON BOARD AND IRAQ WILL PARTICIPATE ALTHOUGH BAKR WILL NOT ATTEND. PLO WILL ALSO ATTEND, REPRESENTED BY 'ARAFAT AND OTHERS. SUMMIT WILL LAST TWO OR THREE DAYS WITHOUT ANY OF PUBLICITY ATTENDANT UPON ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE.

2. YAZID SAID THAT ALGERIA ADVISING FEDAYEEN TO BE REALISTIC, I.E., "WHEN YOU HAVE LOST YOUR BARGAINING POWER, YOU MUST SETTLE FOR WHAT YOU CAN GET". BASED ON OTHER REPORTS, WE BELIEVE ALGERIANS ADVISING PLO TO FOLLOW ALGERIAN PATTERN IN ESTABLISHING ITS STATUS AS REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIANS, PROBABLY INCLUDING FORMATION OF GOVT IN EXILE. HOWEVER, PLO DECISIONS ON ACTUAL PARTICIPATION IN PEACE TALKS AND ON TERRITORY TO BE CLAIMED FOR INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL THERE IS GREATER CERTAINTY THAT PEACE TALKS WILL BE HELD AND THAT PLO HAS ADEQUATE ARAB SUPPORT FOR ITS POSITION. THIS COULD EMERGE FROM ARAB SUMMIT AND MAY WELL BE ONE OF REASONS GOA PRESSING FOR SUMMIT IN ALGIERS.

3. ANOTHER ITEM OF INTEREST (PARTIALLY CONFIRMED BY REPORTS IN OTHER CHANNELS) WAS YAZID'S STATEMENT THAT BOUMEDIENE HAD PROMISED SOVS, DURING HIS TRIP TO MOSCOW, THAT ALGERIA WOULD UNDERWRITE ARMS SUPPLY TO EGYPT AND SYRIA AND IRAQ TO EXTENT OF 400 MILLION DOLLARS.

4. COMMENT: YAZID'S CLAIM OF ALGERIAN SUCCESS IN ARRANGING FOR ARAB SUMMIT WAS MADE PRIOR TO ANNOUNCEMENT RESUMPTION DIPLOMATIC REALTIONS BETWEEN US AND EGYPT. DESPITE HIS CONFIDENT ASSERTIONS, YAZID LEFT IMPRESSION THAT SUMMIT NOT RPT NOT PINNED DOWN AS TIGHTLY AS ALGERIANS WOULD LIKE. HIS STATEMENT THAT IDEA ORIGINATED WITH EGYPT AND SYRIA IS DEFINITELY AT ODDS WITH OTHER REPORTS INDICATING THAT EGYPT PARTICULARLY RESERVED RE SUMMIT. PRO-SAUDI SOURCES ALSO INDICATE COOLNESS TO SUMMIT.

BUFFUM

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CAIRO

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMISTICE, PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, SUMMIT MEETINGS, CHIEFS OF STATE MEETINGS, EMBARGOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 NOV 1973
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BEIRUT12918
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731147/aaaabitt.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ALGIERS 2325
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <03-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE ARAB SUMMIT
TAGS: PFOR, MX, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005